



**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**  
*Meeting Announcement*

***DEQ announces public meeting on water quality study***

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will host a public meeting on a water quality study for Pagan River and Jones Creek in Isle of Wight on Thursday September 28, 2006.

The meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. in the Smithfield Center located at 220 North Church Street in Smithfield. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information and discuss the study with community members and local government.

The Virginia Departments of Environmental Quality, Conservation and Recreation, and Health are working to identify the sources of bacteria pollution in this watershed. This pollution decreases the quality of the water, and prohibits swimming or recreational use, and the direct harvest and consumption of shellfish in these waters.

During the study, a Total Maximum Daily Load, TMDL, will be developed for fecal coliform bacteria, *E. coli*, or enterococci for each of these impairments. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, pollutant levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount.

The Middle Pagan River is impaired for the Recreation Use. The Pagan River and Jones Creek are impaired for the Shellfish Consumption Use.

DEQ will accept written public comments by email, fax, or postal mail. A 30-day comment period for the development of the TMDL will be available until October 30, 2006. For additional information or to submit comments, contact Jennifer Howell, in the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Tidewater Regional Office, 5636 Southern Blvd, Virginia Beach VA 23462, by phone (757) 518-2111 or by e-mail [jshowell@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:jshowell@deq.virginia.gov). Additional information is also available on the DEQ web site at [www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl).